

# 久米田康浩

Kouji Kumeta Presents



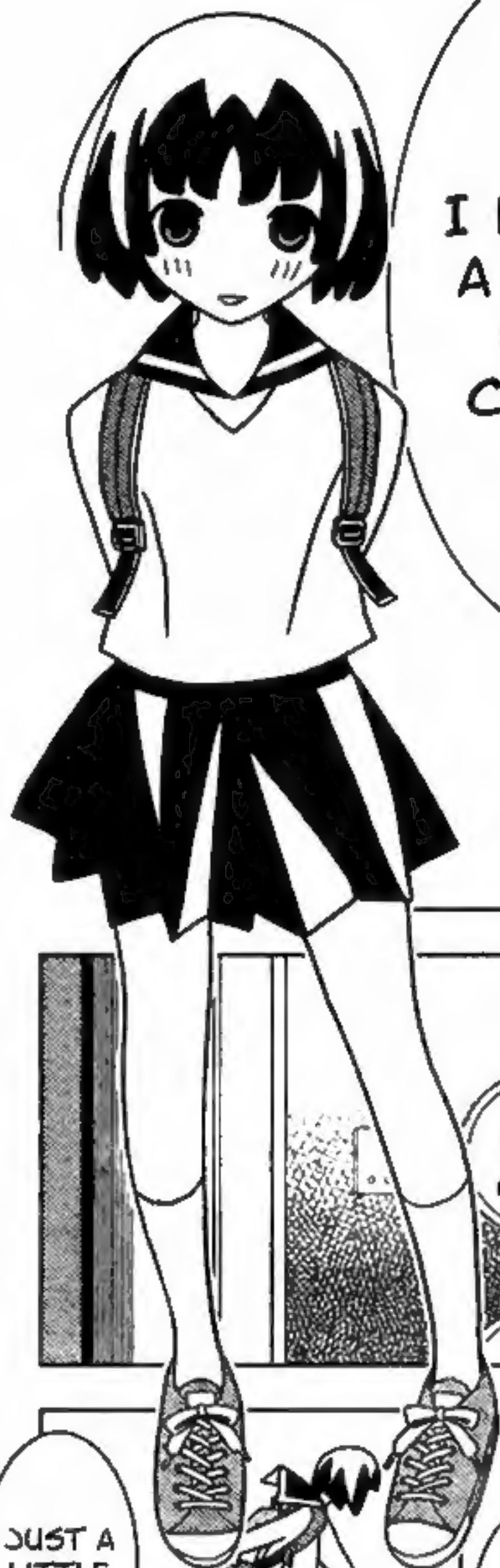
Kume Short Kouji Kumeta



# TawaMan Tomoko

## High-Rise Tomoko

I believe many of you may have already guessed, but the title is an homage to "Danchi Tomoo"



I LIVE IN  
A HIGH-  
RISE  
CONDO.

MY NAME IS  
NIKAIDOU  
TOMOKO.

IS THE  
TOP  
FLOOR.

50

OUR  
DESTINA-  
TION...

OF  
COURSE  
...

JUST A  
LITTLE  
BIT.

JUST A  
LITTLE.

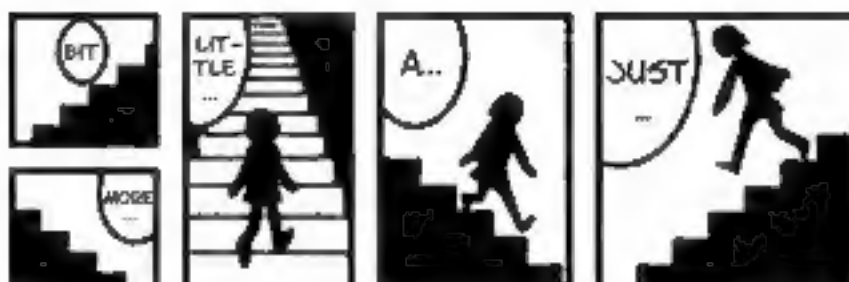
WE TAKE  
THE  
STAIRS.

AND  
NOW  
FROM  
HERE  
...

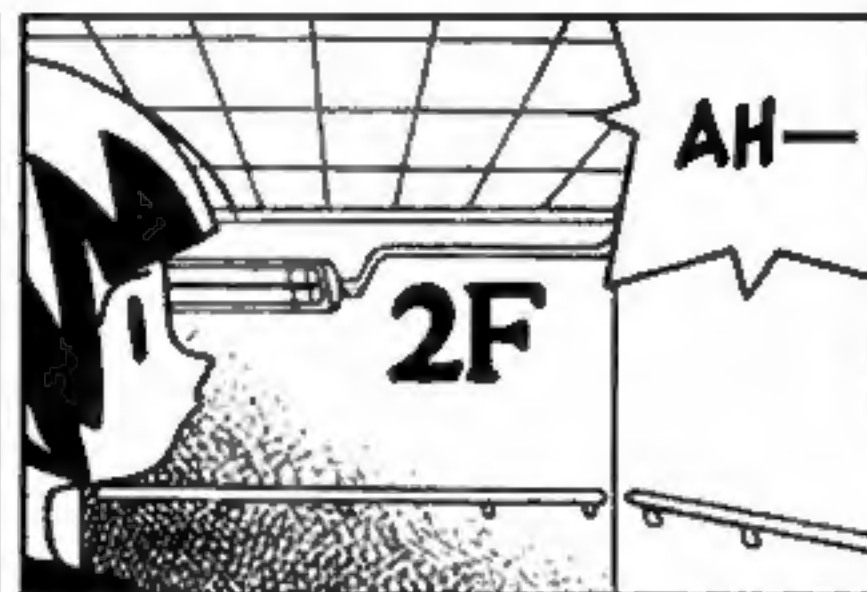
ギイイ

チーム

AND  
WE'RE  
HERE.







3

SFX: WAAAAA—





# TMT

Tawa

Man

Tomoko



LIKE THE  
ELEVATOR  
BEING  
OUT OF  
ORDER.♡

I FEEL LIKE  
SOMETHING  
GOOD IS  
GOING TO  
HAPPEN  
TODAY.



MOGAMI-SAN,  
FROM THE  
TOP FLOOR!

IF  
IT ISN'T  
NIKAIDOU-  
SAN.

I PAY THE SAME  
MAINTENANCE  
FEES AS EVERY-  
BODY ELSE...

2F

BUT ...

THAT'S  
RIGHT,  
THAT'S  
RIGHT!

DO YOU REALLY  
THINK IT'S OKAY  
TO USE THE  
ELEVATOR WHEN  
YOU LIVE ON THE  
2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR?



USE  
THE  
STAIRS  
!!

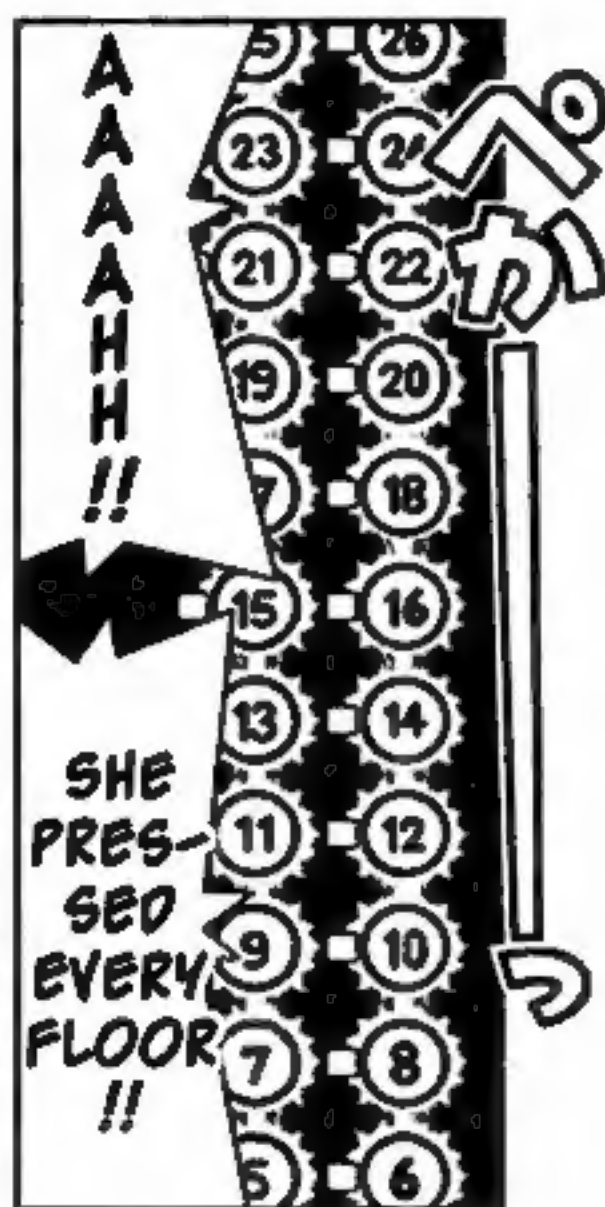
USE  
THE  
STAIRS  
!!

USE  
THE  
STAIRS  
!!

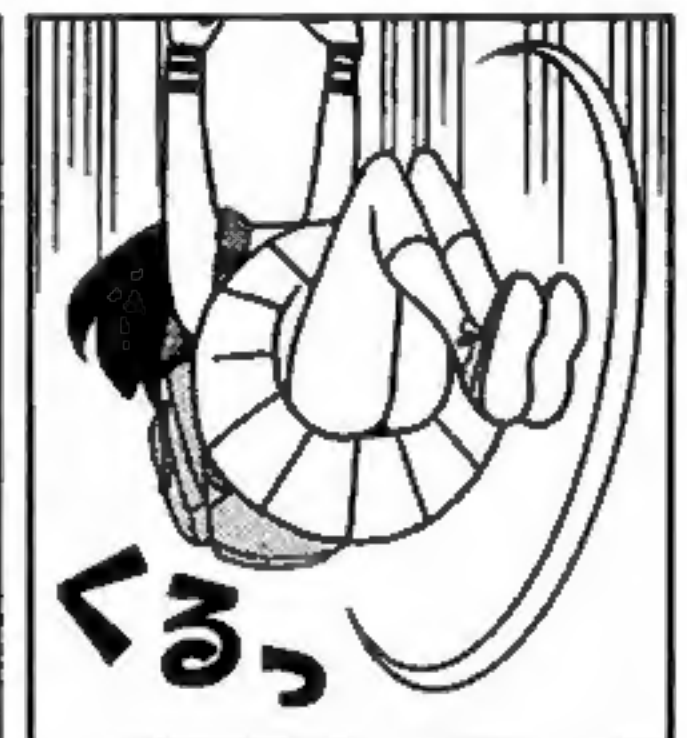
YES, THE  
STAIRS!  
THE STAIRS  
!!

JUST  
USE THE  
STAIRS!













EVERYTHING  
FROM THE 2<sup>ND</sup>  
FLOOR UP IS  
COVERED IN  
CLOUDS, HUH?

SO THIS IS  
THE HIGH-RISE  
YOU LIVE IN.

THE UPPER  
CLASSES  
(THE 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR  
AND UP) ARE  
ALWAYS CLEAR  
AND SUNNY.



NO MATTER  
HOW HARD  
IT MAY  
RAIN ON  
THE 2<sup>ND</sup>  
FLOOR AND  
BELOW...

THAT'S  
RIGHT.

THE  
MAJORITY  
OF SOCIETY  
ALREADY  
SEES YOU  
AS A  
WINNER!

AND EVEN  
FOR THE  
2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR,  
WHEN YOU  
LIVE IN A  
HIGH-RISE

TO LAUGH  
AT YOU?  
YOU'RE THE  
ONE WHO  
INVITED ME!!

YOU CAME  
HERE TO  
LAUGH AT ME  
FOR LIVING ON  
THE 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR  
LIKE THIS,  
DIDN'T YOU?

THE  
HIERARCHY  
THAT EXISTS  
WITHIN 100  
METERS OF  
THEM IS  
ALL THAT  
MATTERS...

TO HUMAN  
BEINGS

THE  
MAJORITY...

OF SOCIETY?

31



I'D MUCH  
RATHER  
RULE OVER  
THE LOWER  
CLASSES  
AS THEIR  
QUEEN!!

INSTEAD  
OF LIVING  
ON THE  
2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR  
OF A HIGH-  
RISE...



MY PLACE  
IS ONLY ON  
THE FIRST  
FLOOR OF A  
COMPLEX.

WHICH  
FLOOR YOU  
LIVE ON  
SHOULDN'T  
MATTER,  
SHOULD IT?

DON'T  
GIVE UP  
YET.

WELL ...

ペしッ

YEAH.

THE  
FIRST  
FLOOR?

SINCE  
THERE'S  
NO ELE-  
VATOR.

BUT IN  
AN APART-  
MENT  
COMPLEX,  
THE FIRST  
FLOOR IS  
ACTUALLY  
MORE  
POPULAR.

WHAT? BUT  
THERE'S  
NO WAY  
I'M LOOKING  
DOWN ON  
YOU, OR  
ANYTHING!

HASN'T  
YOUR  
ATTITUDE  
CHANGED  
A BIT FROM  
BEFORE?

WHAT'S  
GOTTEN INTO  
YOU ALL OF  
A SUDDEN?

いやあああ

DON'T TALK  
ABOUT  
ELEVATORSSS  
!!

MY LOWLY,  
PATHETIC SELF  
WON'T BE ABLE  
TO THINK OF  
ANYTHING BUT  
THE CABLES  
SNAPPING!

IF I HEAR  
ANY MORE  
ABOUT  
ELEVATORS  
...

ELE--





BUT EVEN  
USE OF THE  
STAIRCASE  
HAS BEEN  
FORBIDDEN.



FOR  
RESIDENTS  
OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup>  
FLOOR, NOT  
ONLY THE  
ELEVATOR...

EH? YOU  
LOOK AT IT  
POSITIVELY?



ROCK CLIMB-  
ING IS LIKE  
SOMETHING  
A YOUNG  
PERSON  
FROM SHIBUYA  
WOULD DO!

EVERY-  
ONE'S A  
BEGINNER  
AT FIRST!



WORK UP  
SOME  
COURAGE,  
CHERRY-  
BOY!

BUT I'VE  
NEVER  
DONE  
THIS  
BEFORE.



COME ON,  
LET'S  
GO.

JUST WHAT  
IT LOOKS  
LIKE: A ROCK  
CLIMBING  
WALL.

WHAT'S  
THIS?



WH-  
WHAT?



ぴしゅん

ピュン



CH-  
CHUUSOUJI-  
SAN, FROM  
THE MIDDLE  
FLOORS!



IT'S A  
PRESENT OF  
COLORED  
MODELING  
CLAY FOR YOU,  
NIKAIDOU-SAN!

めっぴり

WHAT  
THE  
HECK IS  
THIS!?





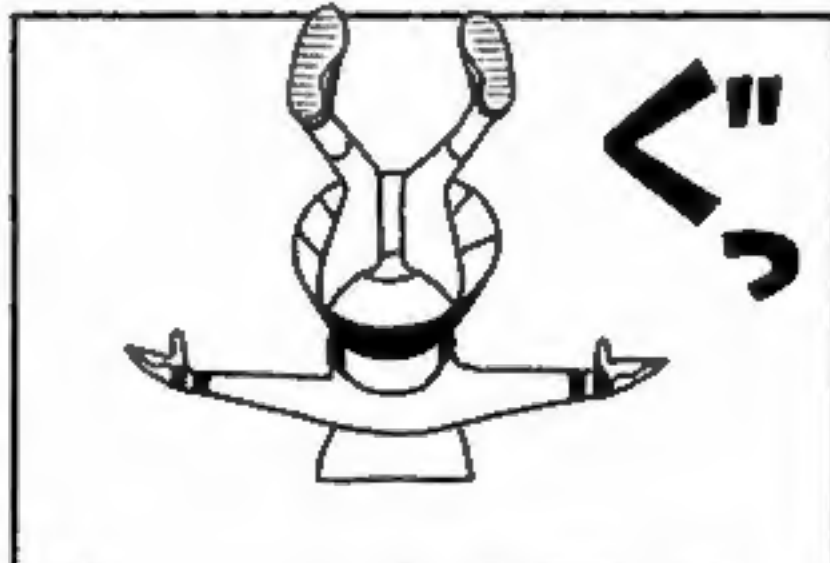
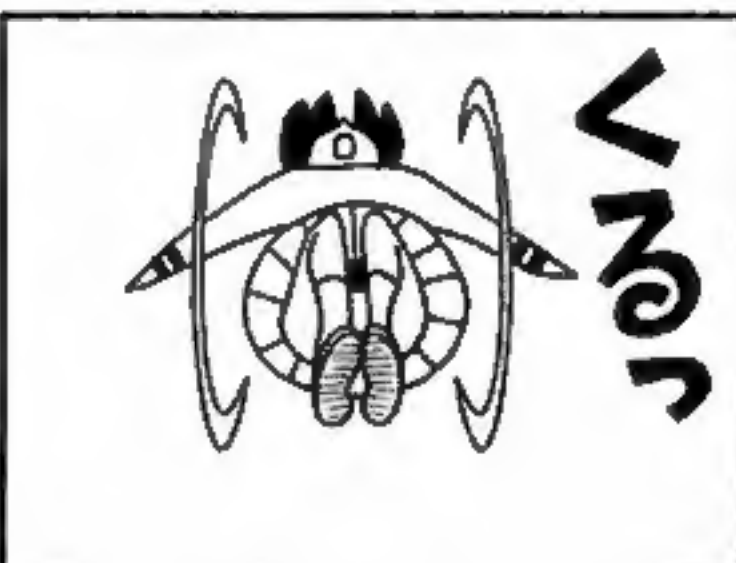
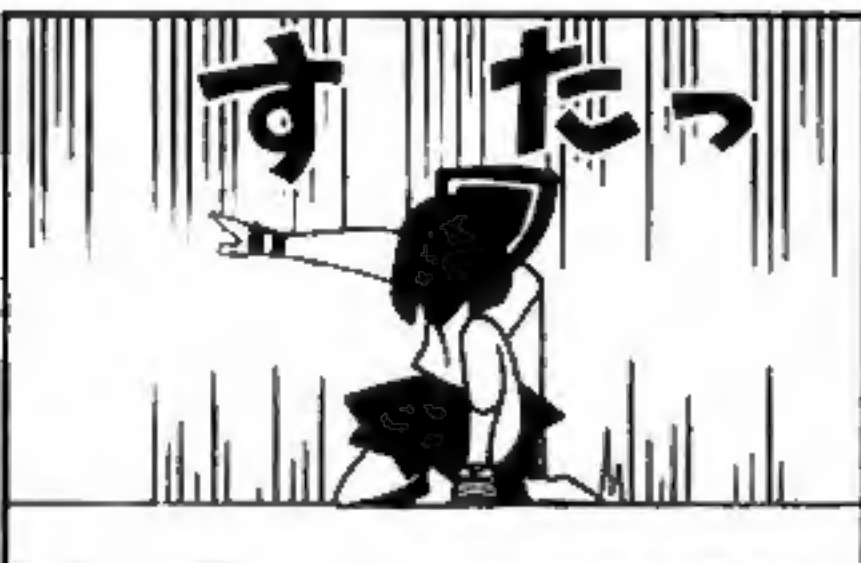
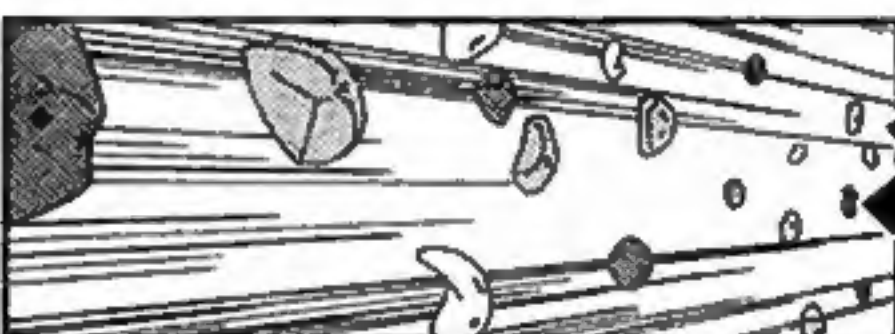
I'M GOING  
DOWN HEAD-  
FIRST!!

IF I  
GRAB THE  
CLAY BY  
MISTAKE  
...

BUT I HAVE  
NO CHOICE  
BUT TO OBEY  
MOGAMI-SAN'S  
ORDERS!!

I'M SORRY!  
I DIDN'T  
WANT TO  
DO THIS!

NOW  
I CAN'T  
TELL  
WHICH ARE  
THE REAL  
HAND-  
HOLDS!!



I'M UN-  
INSURED...  
THE REALITY  
OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup>  
FLOOR!

BUT  
ONCE  
AGAIN  
...

THE ANIMA-  
TION IN THAT  
BIT JUST NOW  
WOULD HAVE  
BEEN  
RECYCLED!

IF THIS  
HAD BEEN  
A LITTLE  
KIDS'  
ANIME...

THE CLOUDS  
ARE...  
CLEARING  
UP!?

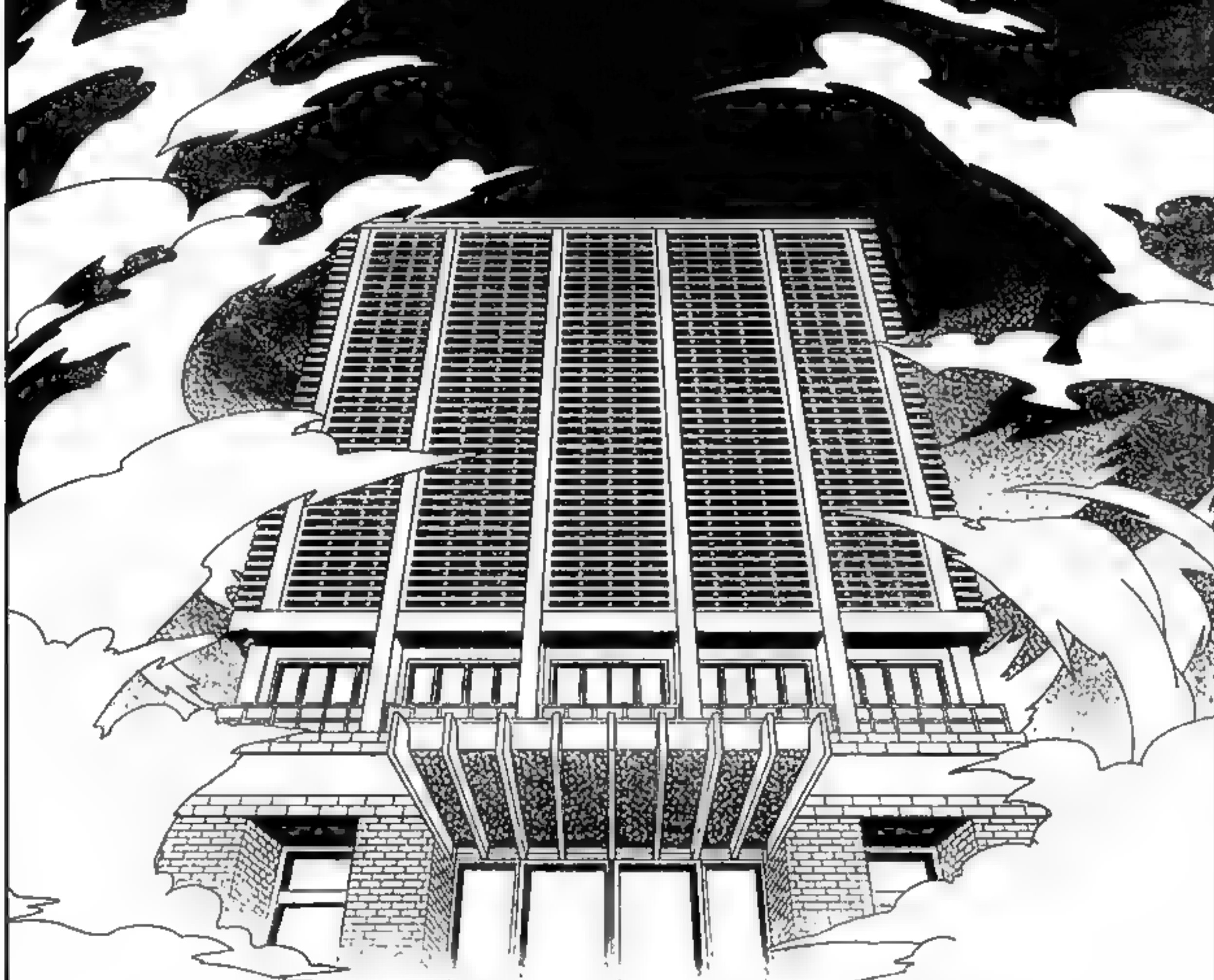
The frictional  
heat from her  
knee created  
a rising air  
current...

At that  
moment,  
a miracle  
occurred.

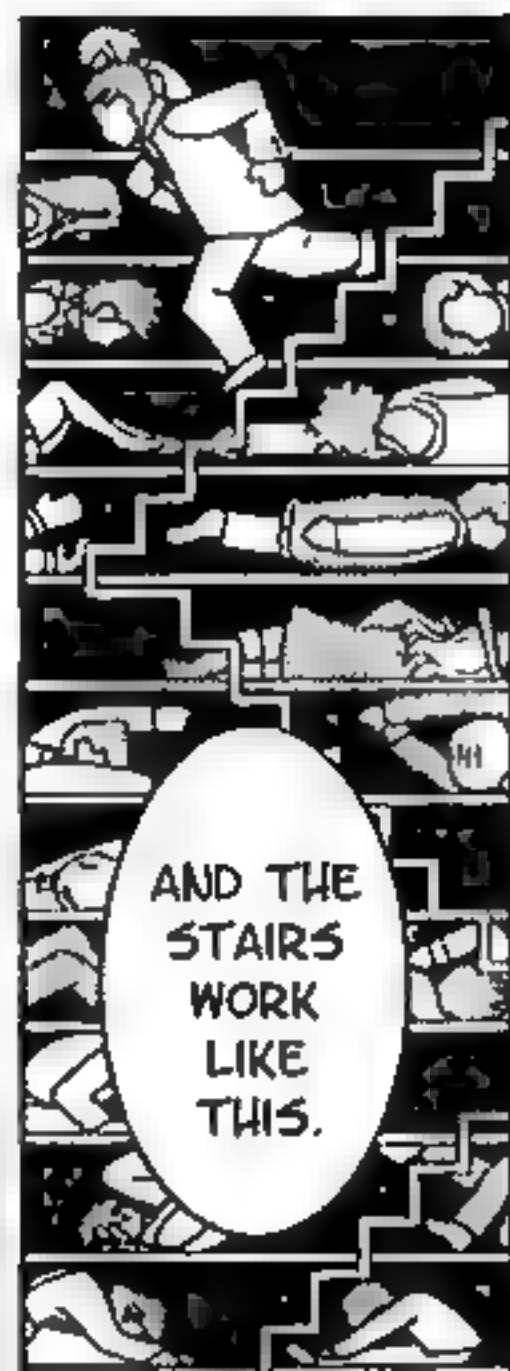
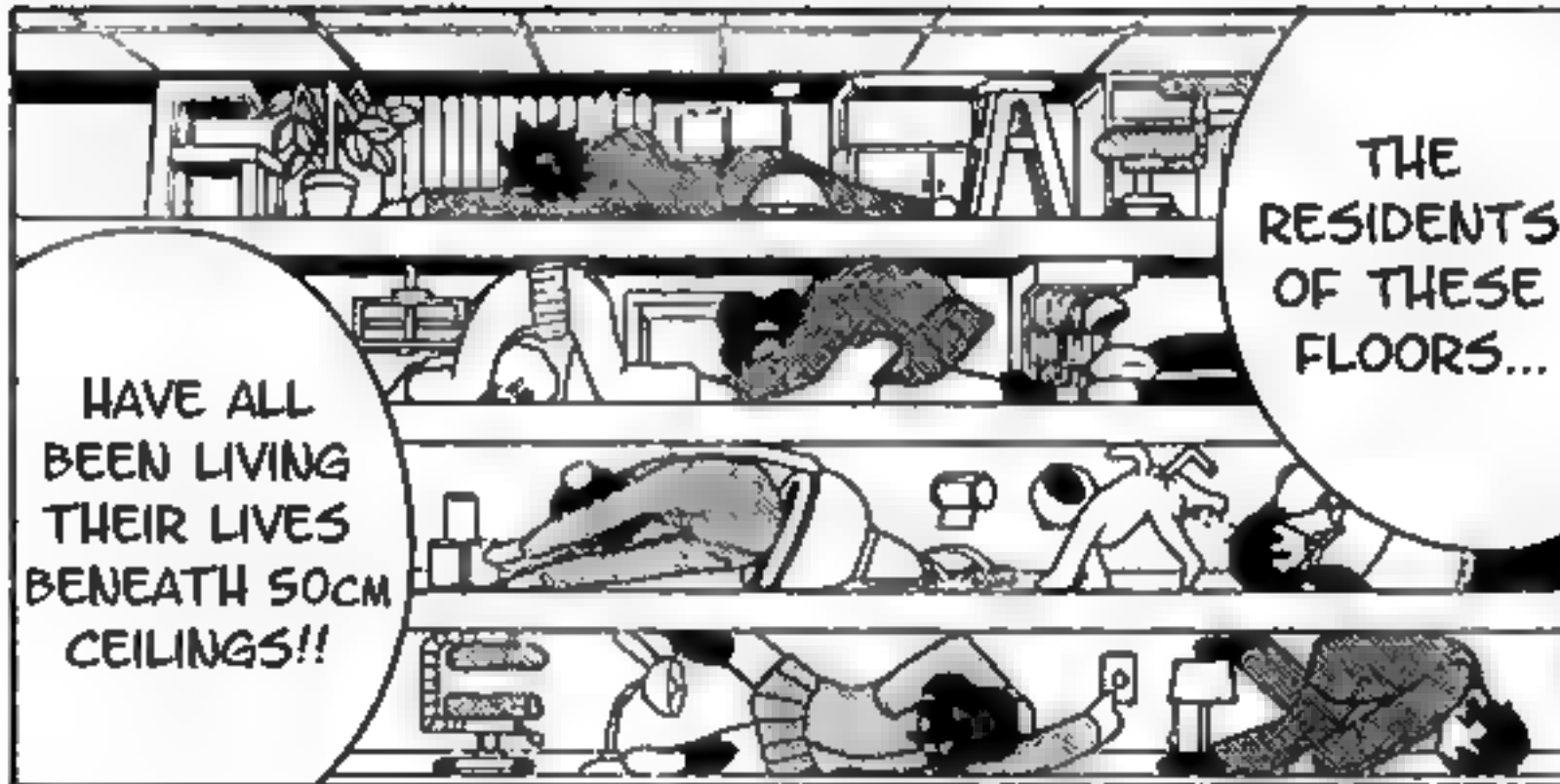


AT LEAST  
SKIN YOUR  
KNEE~!

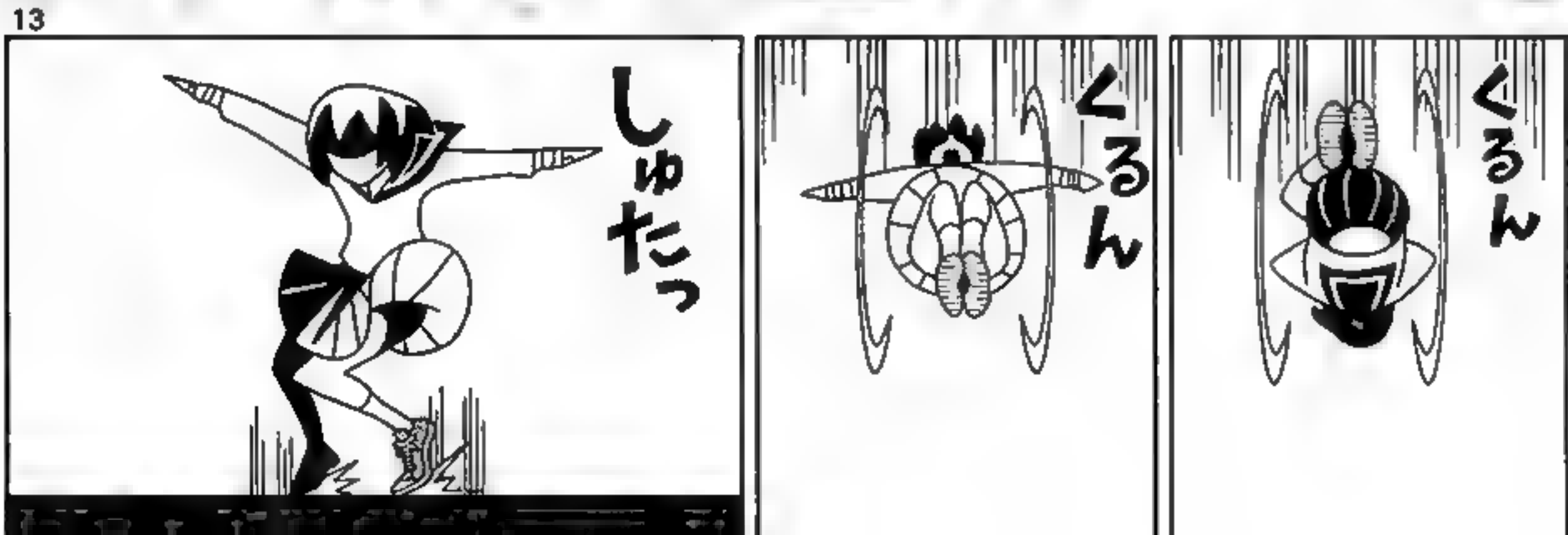
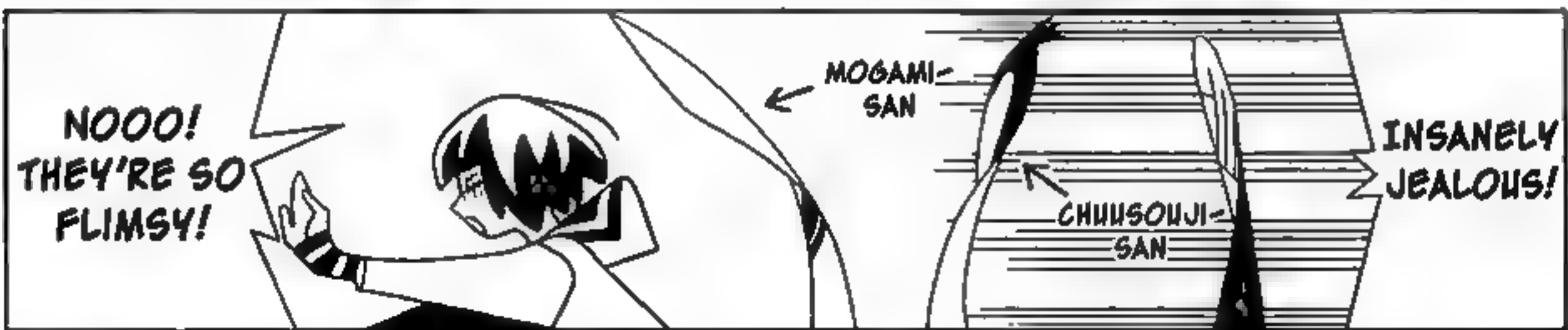
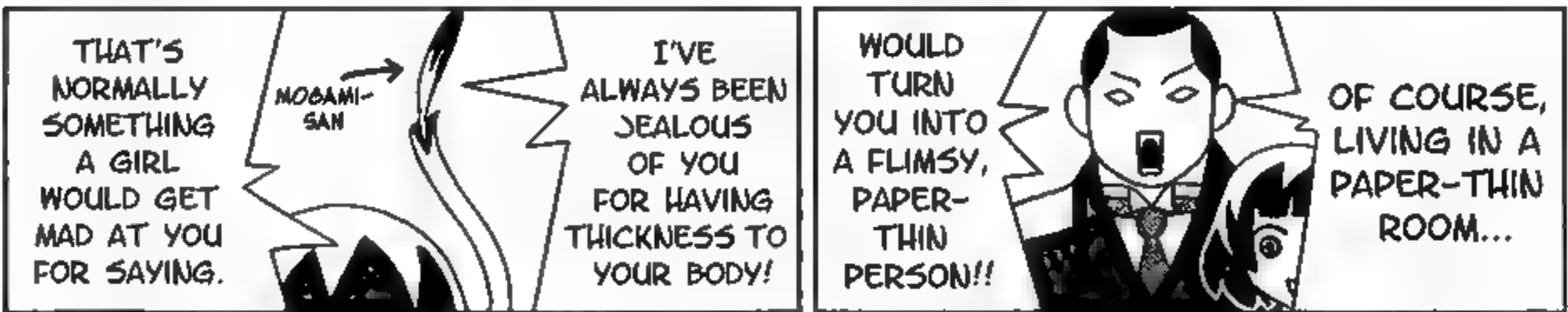
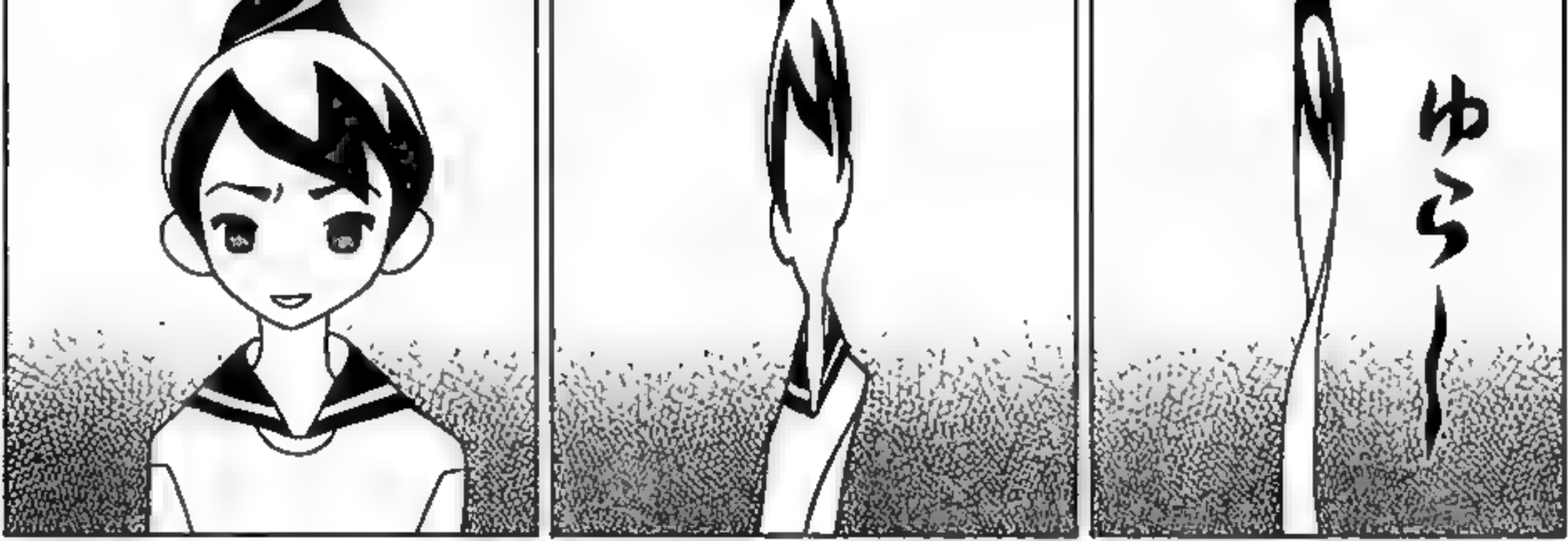














At that moment, another miracle...

すりすり

AT LEAST SKIN YOUR KNEE~!

THE REALITY OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR !!

I'M COMPLETELY UNINJURED ...

A rising air current was born of the frictional heat from her knee!!

THE PAPER PEOPLE ARE BEING BLOWN UP INTO THE SKY!!

WAAAH!!

THAT'S, UH...

"MOTHER BECAME A KITE" WAS KIND OF A CHILDHOOD TRAUMA FOR ME...

BUT ...

I'M SAVED ...

OF COURSE...

TO WHERE?

MOVE, WHAT ELSE?

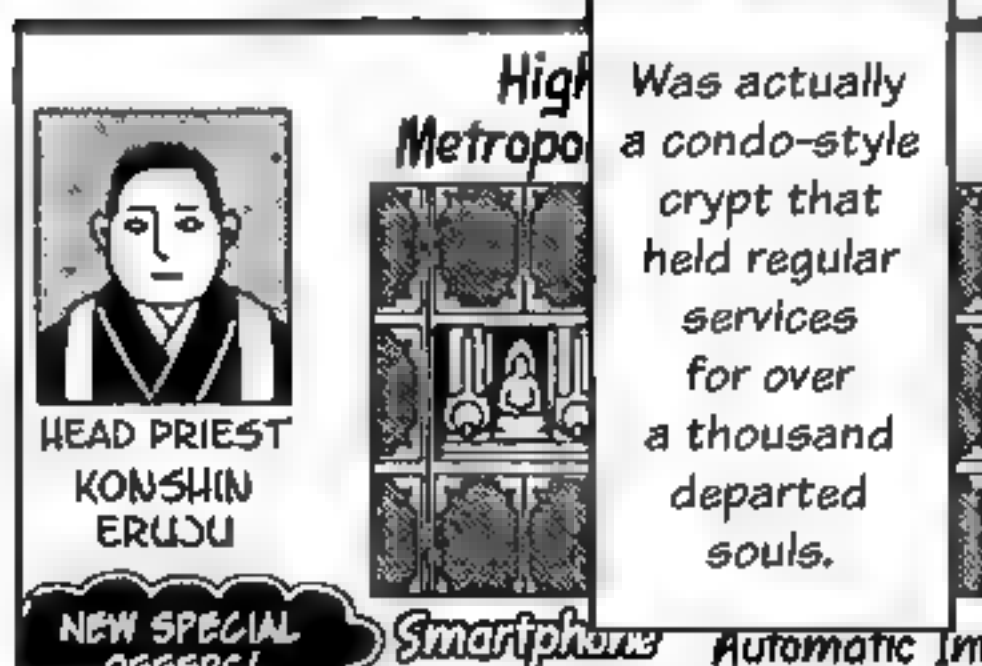
SO WHAT'LL YOU DO NOW?





## TO BE CONTINUED

15



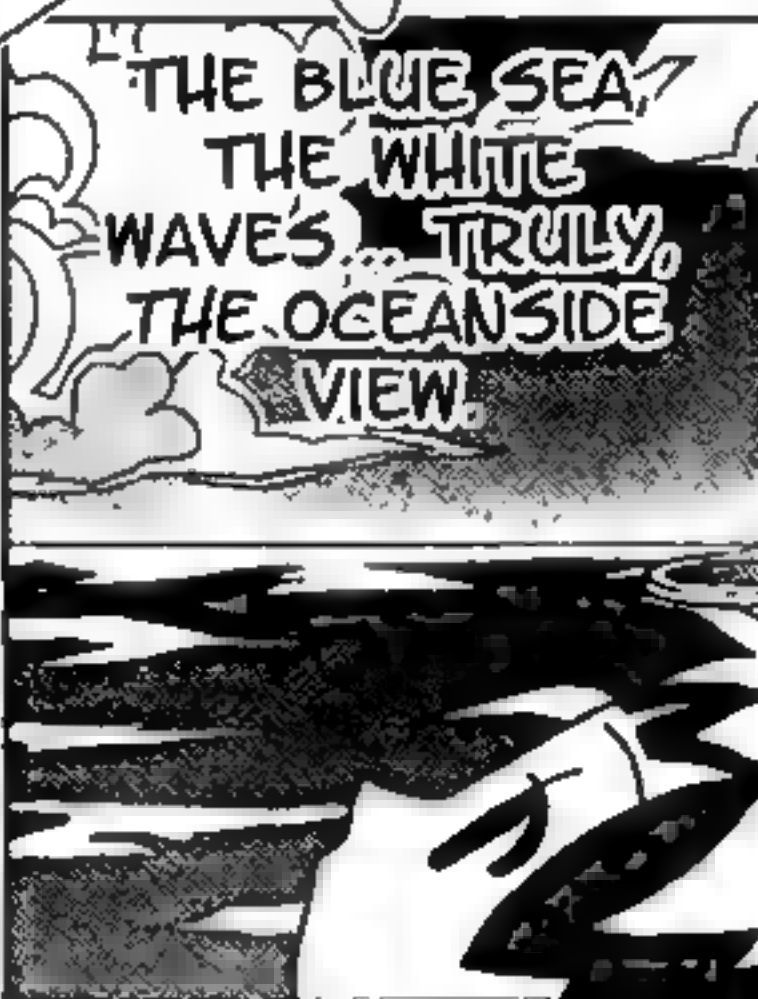


# RizoMan Tomoko

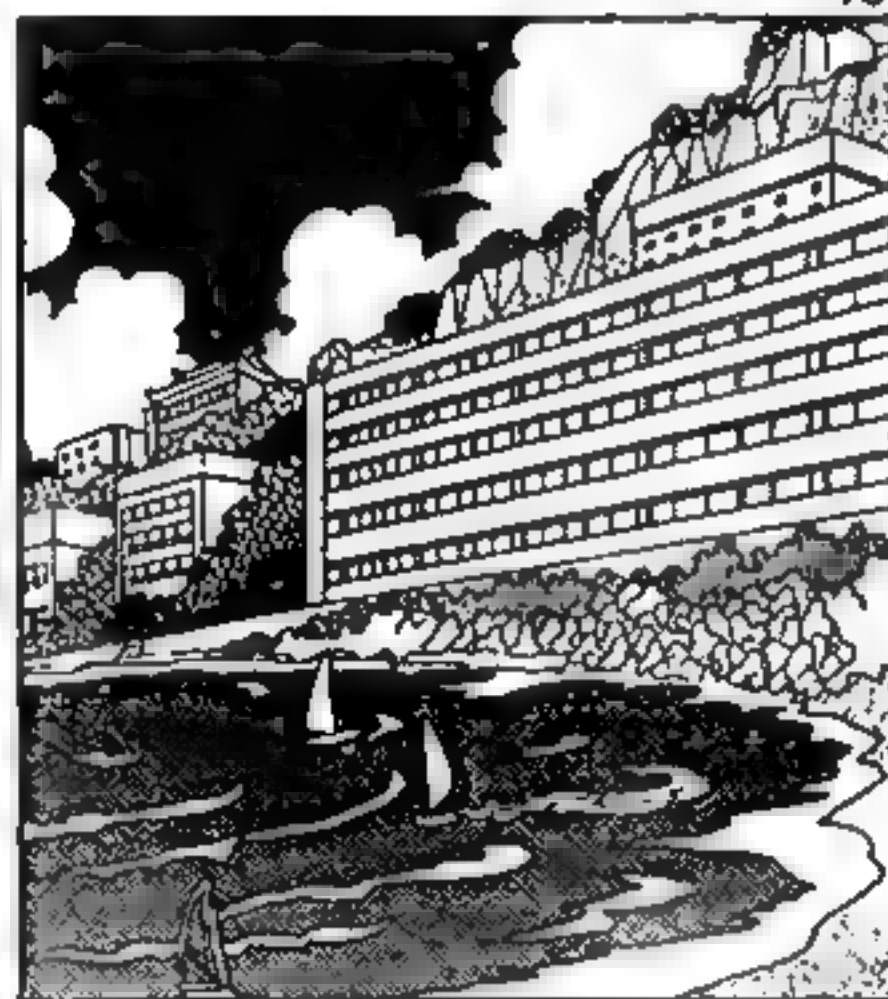
## Resort Condo Tomoko

My name is  
Nikaidou  
Tomoko.

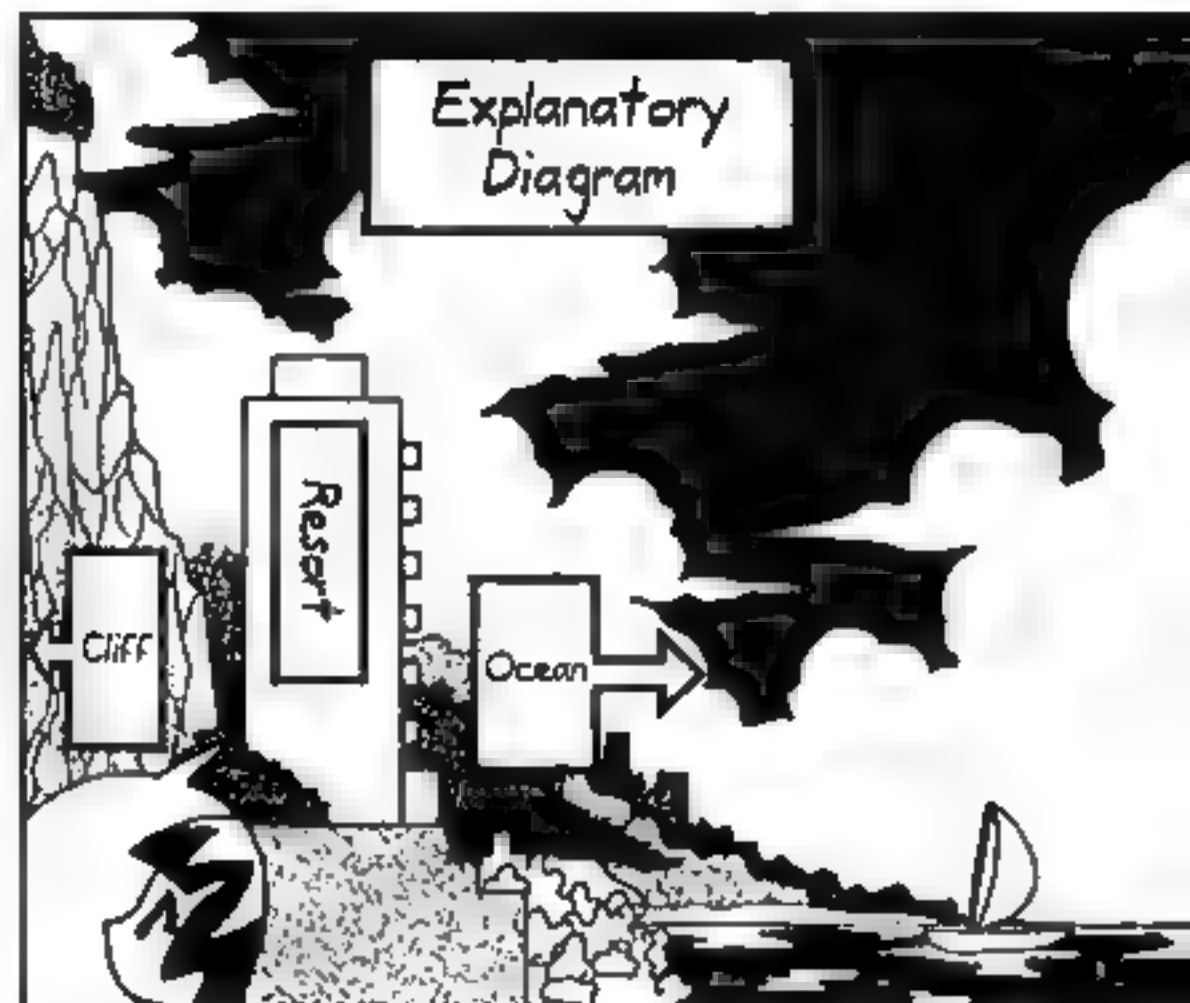
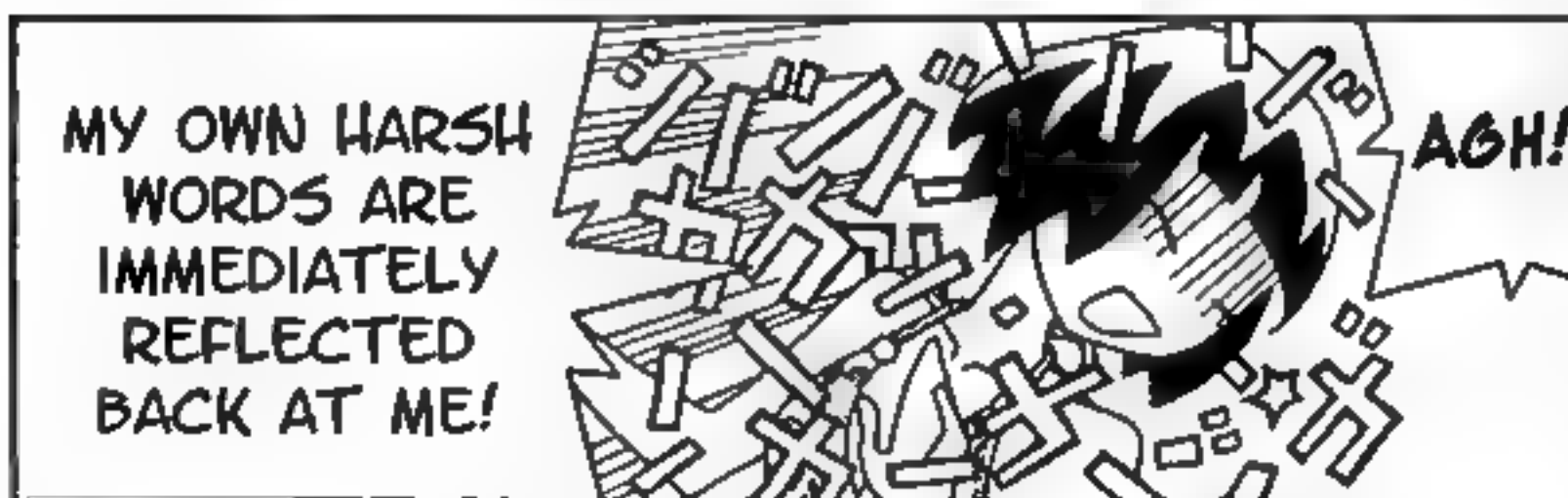
I always  
spend my  
summers at  
this resort  
condo.



THE BLUE SEA,  
THE WHITE  
WAVES... TRULY,  
THE OCEANSIDE  
VIEW.

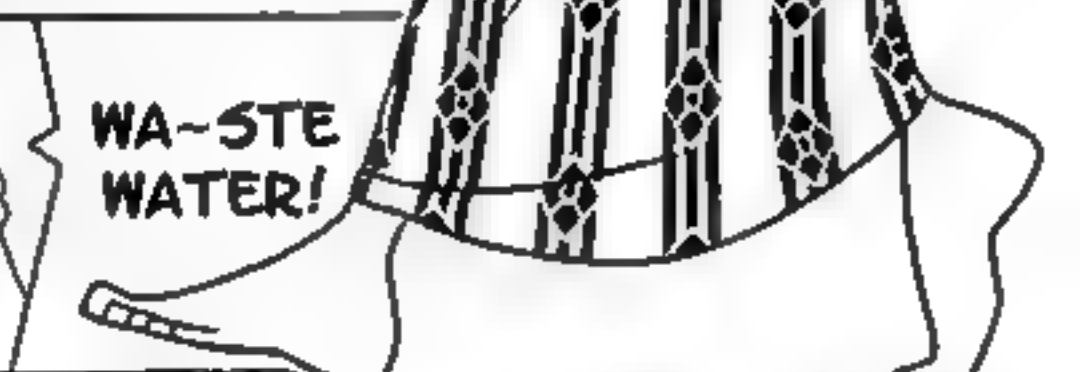
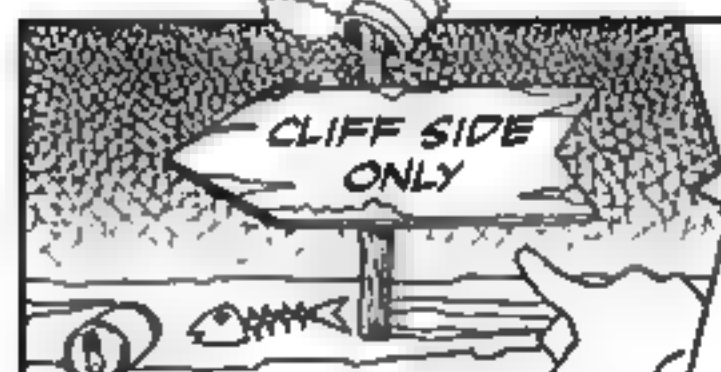
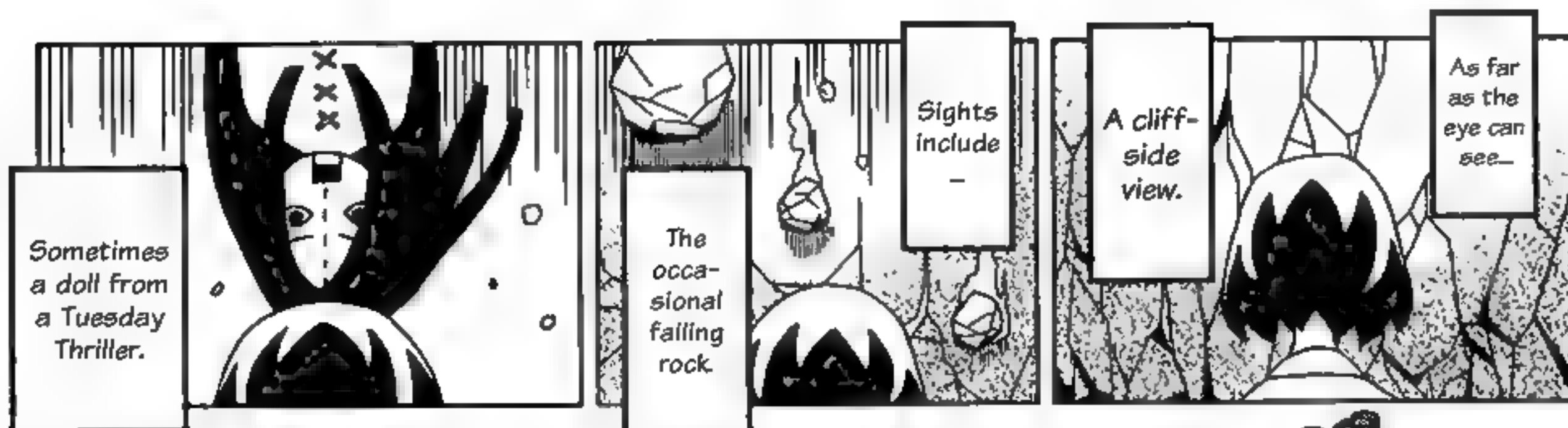








# RizoMan Tomoko





BOTH ARE  
BLESSINGS  
OF MOTHER  
NATURE!!



HOT  
SPRING  
OR MUDDY  
POND...

Muddy water  
accumulates here



Resort  
Condo

Cliff



AH~ WHAT A  
GREAT MUD  
BATH! ♨



A RESORT  
GOER,  
YOU SAY?



AH!?

OH, A RICH-  
LOOKING  
RESORT GOER.

I'M  
FROM THE  
HOLIDAY  
HOUSE  
TRIBE!!



I'M NO  
RESORT  
GOER!!

NOW I'M  
JEALOUS!



THAT'S  
SO COOL!

HOLIDAY  
HOUSE  
TRIBE!!

H-



IF I  
HAD TO  
PICK  
SOME-  
THING,  
YOU'D  
BE...



Being called  
part of the  
○○ Tribe has  
been a dream  
of Tomoko's  
since she  
was little.

Bamboo-  
Shoot Tribe



Sun Tribe



Bird Nobles



Miyuki Tribe



The Northern  
Family



I WANT TO  
BE CALLED  
PART OF  
SOME KIND  
OF TRIBE  
TOO!







OR SOME-  
THING?

THE  
"AGAINST-  
THE-WALL"  
TRIBE...



FINE, THE  
"AGAINST-  
THE-CLIFF"  
TRIBE.

IT'S A  
"CLIFF"!

BUT  
IT'S NOT  
EVEN A  
"WALL"!



AGAINST-  
THE-  
CLIFF  
TRIBE!!

HA HA,  
AGAINST-  
THE-CLIFF  
TRIBE!!



THERE'S  
NO SUCH  
THING!!

20



NO... OF  
COURSE  
NOT!

YOU WEREN'T  
JUST THINKING  
OF GOING IN,  
WERE YOU?

A MILK  
BATH...

TODAY'S  
BATHS  
300% RAW  
MILK BATH

TODAY'S  
SPECIAL  
BATH  
SOUNDS  
SO NICE  
...



EH—  
REALLY!?

I'VE HEARD  
THAT THE  
CLIFFSIDERS'  
BATH IS DOING  
A SPECIAL  
TODAY TOO.



THIS  
IS...

HM!?



THIS  
ISN'T  
MUD!

SHE'S  
RIGHT  
...



WAH

IT'S  
TRUE,  
GO SEE  
FOR  
YOUR-  
SELF!









AND IT'S  
ALREADY  
DONE.



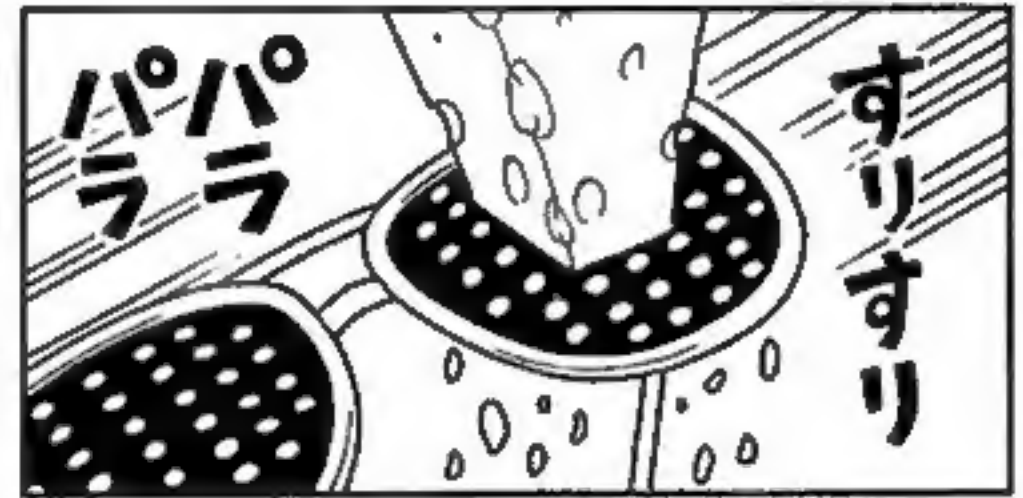
THAT'S  
RIGHT.

THE MILK BATH  
BACK THEN  
WAS JUST SO  
THAT YOU COULD  
BOIL MILK TO  
MAKE CHEESE,  
WASN'T IT?



I DIDN'T  
EVEN  
NOTICE!

THEY  
WERE A  
CHEESE  
GRATER!?



WAS  
BECAUSE  
YOU WANTED  
TO USE IT  
RAW.

THIS RICE  
IS NOT TO  
BOILED

AND  
THE SIGN  
ABOUT NOT  
BOILING IT  
...

IT'S  
ITALIAN  
CARNAROLI  
RICE,  
ISN'T IT?

NEXT,  
THE RICE  
THAT YOU  
HARVESTED.

I WOULD  
NEVER  
HAVE  
FIGURED  
IT OUT!!



IF IT  
WEREN'T  
FOR  
COOKPAD  
...



THAT'S  
RIGHT, THIS  
"RESORT  
CONDO"  
...



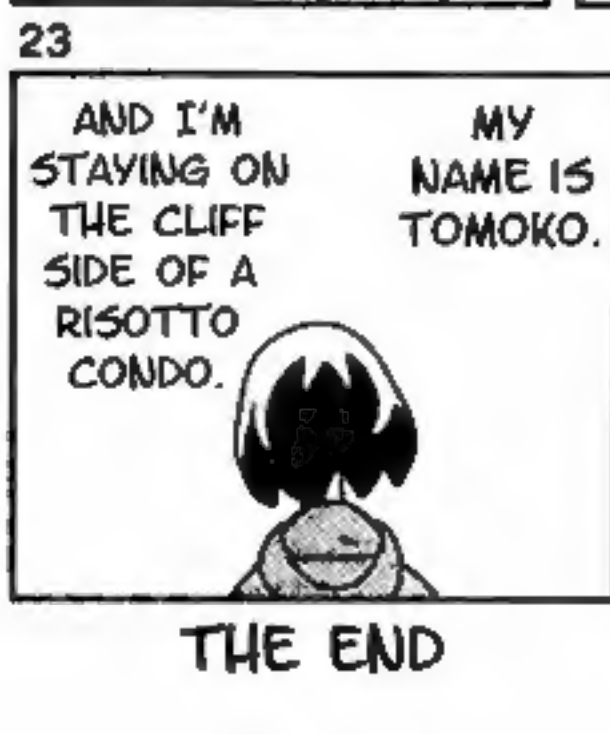
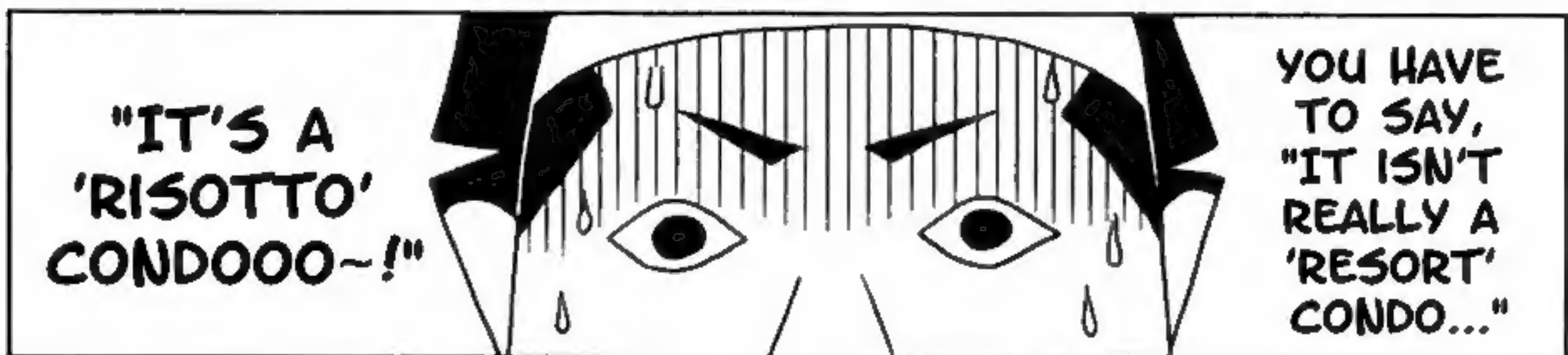
GRR  
...

NOW GIVE UP.  
I'VE SEEN  
THROUGH  
EVERYTHING.



ISN'T  
REALLY A  
"RESORT"  
CONDO...







## Translation Notes (1/2)

- Name puns:
  - "Nikaidou Tomoko": Nikaidou means "second floor residence."
  - "Mogami-san": Mogami means "top-most" or "the best."
  - "Chuusouji-san": Chuusouji means "mid-level temple."
  - "Hatoya-san": Written "wave stopper," her name is probably a reference to the Hatoya Hotel, an oceanside hotel in Shizuoka Prefecture.
- Page 13, Panel 6: "Mother Became a Kite"  
The title of a childrens' story from the wartime era, where a mother sacrifices herself to save her son. She does not actually turn into a kite.
- Page 14, Panel 5: "Konshin Eruju"  
A pun on "concierge," written with the characters for soul, heart, obtain, and curse.
- Page 17, Panel 3: "Doll from a Tuesday Thriller"  
A reference to Kayou Suspense Gekijou, literally "Tuesday Suspense Theater," a murder mystery program that was broadcast on Nippon TV from 1981 to 2005. Obvious mannequins were often used for scenes where the victim is pushed off a cliff or bridge.
- Page 18, Panel 6: "Holiday House Tribe"  
Japanese subcultures are often described using the suffix "zoku," meaning "tribe." Holiday House Tribe is a term used to describe the upper-class people who own villas in the resort town of Karuizawa, Nagano Prefecture.





## Translation Notes (2/2)

- Page 18, Panel 9: "Sun Tribe"  
"Taiyou-zoku," a youth subculture named after the novel "Season of the Sun" by Ishihara Shintarou and known for violence and promiscuity.
- Page 18, Panel 9: "Bamboo-Shoot Tribe"  
"Takenoko-zoku," a dance subculture from the 70's and 80's supposedly named after a store in Harajuku.
- Page 18, Panel 9: "Bird Nobles"  
"Tori Kizoku," or "The Bird Nobles," is the name of a yakitori chain restaurant. It also happens to end in "zoku," the character for "tribe."
- Page 18, Panel 9: "Miyuki Tribe"  
"Miyuki-zoku," an individualist youth subculture from the 60's named after a street in the Tokyo Ginza.
- Page 18, Panel 9: "The Northern Family"  
"Kita no Kazoku," or "The Northern Family," is the name of an Osakan chain restaurant that also happens to end in "zoku" (and has nothing to do with North Korea).
- Page 19, Panel 1: "Against-the-Cliff Tribe"  
"Kabegiwa-zoku," from the title of Akagawa Jirou's 1987 novel "Kabegiwa-zoku ni Hanataba wo."
- Page 21, Panel 7: "Cookpad"  
A large cooking website with a database of user-created recipes.

